

on July 31, 1997 (61FR40954). Hoffmann's rock-cress (*Arabis hoffmannii*) (Munz) Rollins, Santa Rosa Island manzanita (*Arctostaphylos confertiflora*) (Eastw.), island barberry (*Berberis pinnata* Lag. ssp. *insularis*) (Munz), soft-leaved paintbrush (*Castilleja mollis*) (Pennell), island bedstraw (*Galium buxifolium*) (Greene), Hoffmann's slender-flowered gilia (*Gilia tenuiflora* Benth. ssp. *hoffmannii*) (Eastw.) A.D. Grant & V.E. Grant, Santa Cruz Island bushmallow (*Malacothamnus fasciculatus*) (Torr. & A.Gray) (Greene ssp. *nesioticus*) (B.L. Rob. in A. Gray) Kearney, island malacothrix (*Malacothrix indecora* Greene), Santa Cruz Island malacothrix (*Malacothrix squalida* Greene), island phacelia (*Phacelia insularis* Munz ssp. *insularis*), and Santa Cruz Island fringe-pod (*Thysanocarpus conchuliferus* Greene) were listed as endangered and Santa Cruz Island dudleya (*Dudleya nesiotica* Moran) and island rush-rose (*Helianthemum greenei* Robinson) were listed as threatened. All 13 taxa are endemic to the Northern Channel Islands (Anacapa, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, and San Miguel), with the exception of two populations of *Helianthemum greenei* that occur on the more southerly island of Santa Catalina. The plants occur in a variety of habitats: coastal terrace, coastal bluff scrub, coastal sage scrub, and chaparral. All 13 plant species and their habitats have been variously affected or are currently threatened by one or more of the following—soil loss, historic and continuing habitat alteration by mammals alien to the Channel Islands (pigs, goats, sheep, donkeys, cattle, deer, elk, horses, bison); direct predation by these same alien mammals; habitat alteration by native seabirds; competition with alien plant taxa; and increased vulnerability to extinction due to reduced genetic viability, depressed reproductive vigor, and the chance of stochastic extinction resulting from small numbers of individuals and isolated populations.

The goal of this plan is to stabilize and protect existing populations to allow for the downlisting of *Arabis hoffmannii*, *Arctostaphylos confertiflora*, *Berberis pinnata* ssp. *insularis*, *Castilleja mollis*, *Galium buxifolium*, *Gilia tenuiflora* ssp. *hoffmannii*, *Malacothamnus fasciculatus* var. *nesioticus*, *Malacothrix indecora*, *Malacothrix squalida*, *Phacelia insularis* var. *insularis*, and *Thysanocarpus conchuliferus*, and the delisting of *Dudleya nesiotica* and *Helianthemum greenei*.

Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the draft recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of this plan.

Authority

The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: March 22, 1999.

Michael J. Spear,

California/Nevada Operations Manager,
Sacramento, California

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Notice of Availability of the Coquille Forest Resource Management Plan (CFRMP) Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the 5,410 Acre Coquille Forest Near the Community of Bridge, in Coos County, OR

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) intends to file a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Coquille Forest Resource Management Plan (CFRMP) with the Environmental Protection Agency. Both the FEIS and the Plan, which will provide guidance for resource management activities on the 5,410 acre Coquille Forest, are now available for review.

DATES: Written comments will be accepted through April 26, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Address written comments to Mr. Ronald D. Kortlever, Superintendent, Siletz Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs, P.O. Box 569, Siletz, Oregon.

To obtain a copy of the FEIS or CFRMP, please write Mr. Gary Varner, Forester, at the above address, or telephone 541-444-2679. Copies of the FEIS and CFRMP have been sent to all agencies and individuals who participated in the scoping process or who have already requested copies of these documents.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Gary Varner, 541-444-2679.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BIA, through consultation with the Coquille Indian Tribe (Tribe), has developed the CFRMP in conformance with the requirements of the Coquille Restoration

Act (Public Law 101-42), as amended by Pub. L. 104-208 of September 30, 1996 (25 U.S.C. 715c, 110 Stat. 3009-537). The Coquille Forest was created from a fraction of more than 300,000 acres that are under the jurisdiction of the Coos Bay District of the Bureau of Land Management (CBD/BLM). In September 1994, the CBD/BLM approved a Resource Management Plan, and its associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), that would provide guidance for the management of those 300,000+ acres for 10 to 15 years into the future. The BIA and the Tribe, through the Coquille Forest Resource Management Plan, have adopted the land allocations, management practices, standards and guidelines in the BLM's plan that are applicable to the 5,410 acre Coquille Forest. The CFRMP is materially the same as the CBD/BLM Resource Management Plan.

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations at 40 CFR Part 1506.3 allow federal agencies to adopt an EIS prepared by other federal agencies, if the proposed action is substantially the same as that of the issuing agency. An adopting agency that was not a cooperator in the original EIS must recirculate that EIS as an FEIS, with a 30 day review and comment period, before issuing a record of decision on the proposed action. The BIA is following this procedure by recirculating the BLM's EIS, which was approved two years before the statute authorizing the establishment of the Coquille Forest was enacted, along with the CFRMP.

This notice is furnished in accordance with Section 1503.1 of the CEQ regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508) implementing the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), and the Department of the Interior Manual (516 DM 1-6), and is in the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.

Dated: March 23, 1999.

Kevin Gover,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Indian Gaming

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.